

**Background**

Boulder County annually approves a five-year Capital Improvement Project plan and budget for the Parks and Open Space Department. The plan helps the department to prioritize improvements on open space and engage the public to get input on new facilities. The plan also provides a structure for seeking partnerships and grant funds to help leverage our budget.

Staff prioritizes projects based on our Department Mission and Goals; the Boulder County Comprehensive Plan; obligations established in management plans, purchase agreements and intergovernmental agreements; previous Capital Improvement Plans; and requests from our partner agencies in the county and the public.

# Sources & Uses of CIP Funds

CIP Category	Sales Tax	General Fund	Total CIP
Recreation & Facilities	\$150,000		\$150,000
Historic Preservation	\$100,000		\$100,000
Public Education	\$50,000		\$50,000
Agriculture		\$125,000	\$125,000
Forestry	\$180,000	\$20,000	\$200,000
Ecosystems	\$105,000		\$105,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$585,000</b>	<b>\$145,000</b>	<b>\$730,000</b>

The capital budget is distributed between six project categories: Recreation & Facilities, Historic Preservation, Public Education, Agricultural Resources, Ecosystems, and Forestry. Funding for all of these categories except for Ag Resources and a portion of the Forestry budget comes from the sales tax approved by voters in 2010. Ag Resources capital projects are funded from revenue generated by crop leases.

Our work plans continue to be affected by the historic floods of September 2013; flood recovery work is ongoing and because funding is separate from our capital budget, that work is not reflected here. In the 2014 CIP, a number of projects were delayed and budgets reduced due to flood damage and recovery work. As a result, in 2015 we are carrying forward CIP funds in three categories, and the domino effect plays out throughout the planning time frame. In 2015, the good news is that we will be able to spend our full CIP budgets in most categories. The exception is in the Ecosystem category, where we are spending about two-thirds of our normal CIP budget due to ongoing flood restoration efforts. For that reason, the 2015 CIP budget is \$730,000 rather than the usual \$775,000.

# Recreation and Facilities Projects

## Mgmt Plans Complete

- Lagerman/AHI Loop
- Walker Ranch improvements
- Cardinal Mill public access
- Castle Rock access
- Rock Creek Grasslands trails
- Niwot Loop
- Braly Loop

## Future Trail Planning Efforts

- Eldo-Walker (in progress)
- Toll Property (IGA)
- Betasso connector
- Heil South
- Rabbit Mountain connector
- S. County Grasslands
- Sherwood Gulch
- Kenosha
- Gold Hill

CIP projects reflect the work identified in management plans.

From time to time staff undertakes supplemental trail planning efforts. The projects on the right column are on our radar for possible abbreviated planning processes. One such effort is underway for Eldorado Canyon-to-Walker Ranch trail connection, and the recently approved trail alignment on the Toll property requires an IGA with Clear Creek County. Planning efforts are anticipated for trails and facilities at Betasso Preserve, Heil Valley Ranch/South, Rabbit Mountain, South County Grasslands area, Sherwood Gulch, Kenosha, Toll Property, Gold Hill, North Rim, Reynolds/Rogers/Castle Rock, and Rock Creek Spurs/104<sup>th</sup> St.

# Historic Preservation Projects

- Rocky Mountain Mammoth Mine
- Ramey Barn & Granary
- Altona School
- CHP at RCF buildings
- Cardinal Mill
- Reynolds Ranch Cabin
- Henning Barn
- Braly Barn
- Olivieri Buildings
- Tumbleson House

Historic preservation projects are identified and prioritized by the historic preservation staff team. Most projects are aided by grant funding from the State Historic Fund.

# Public Education Projects

## Museum Exhibits

- Ag Heritage Center
- Cardinal Mill
- Altona School House
- Hard Rock Mining Museum
- Assay Office

## Other interpretive Projects

- Traveling Ag Exhibit
- Braly & Ramey
- Trailside Interpretive Panels
- Education Trailer

Public Education projects follow the Recreation and Facilities and the Historic Preservation projects.

# Agricultural Resources Projects

## Center Pivot Irrigation

- Cattell/Sherburne
- Henry/Ross
- Quicksilver
- Dodd Farm
- Ertl (organic)
- AHI (organic)

## Organic Market Farms

- Harney-Lastoka
- Mountainview Egg Farm
- Bishop
- Platt
- Wilkie/Miller

The **Cropland Policy**, adopted in 2012, lays out priorities for the Agricultural program, including water, soil health, livestock, and pest management. Most Agricultural Resource CIP projects are related to increasing the efficiency of water delivery to our properties.

With Center Pivot sprinklers, the tenant purchases the sprinkler, often with a grant from the NRCS Environmental quality improvement program (EQIP). The county invests in the holding pond, pump and electric power supply to run the sprinkler.

Organic market farms are generally small acreage farms and have the irrigation water and soils that are suited to growing vegetables or “Farmers Market” type produce. These types of crops are raised more efficiently with drip or sprinkler irrigation. This will require new irrigation infrastructure, which typically includes an irrigation water holding structure or pond, pumping station, some underground pipeline, and new electric service brought to the irrigation pump. These systems can supply irrigation water to overhead sprinklers and/or drip-tape type irrigation.

## Forestry/Fire Projects

- Ponderosa Forest: Betasso, Heil, Walker
- Mixed Conifer Forest: Reynolds, Caribou
- Rx Burn: Heil, Hall, Betasso
- Weed Management: Mud Lake, Reynolds, Betasso, Hall
- Access Road Maintenance: Hall

Boulder County developed a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) to identify areas at greatest risk for wildfire, and to target areas where forest management is appropriate. We use this plan to help formulate forest management on Boulder County Open Space properties. Management is accomplished with mechanical thinning, sometimes followed by prescribed burns. Weed management and reclaiming access roads are important follow up actions to ensure the best outcomes for forest health. Many forest health projects receive funding from FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation program (FEMA PDM) and the State Forest Service.

# Ecosystems Projects

- Propagate Native Plants
- Restore Grasslands
- Restore Riparian Corridors
- Reclaim/Revegetate mines & plague properties
- Restore Wildlife Habitat
- Close Roads/Social Trails

The goal of ecosystem projects is to improve and restore ecological health of ecosystems to benefit wildlife, especially our native grasslands and valuable riparian areas. To preserve native genetics we collect seeds then grow out those plants to produce more seeds for use in reclamation projects. We get grant support from the Rocky Flats Natural Resource Damage Fund, Urban Drainage and Flood Control District, and through partnerships with the communities in Boulder County.

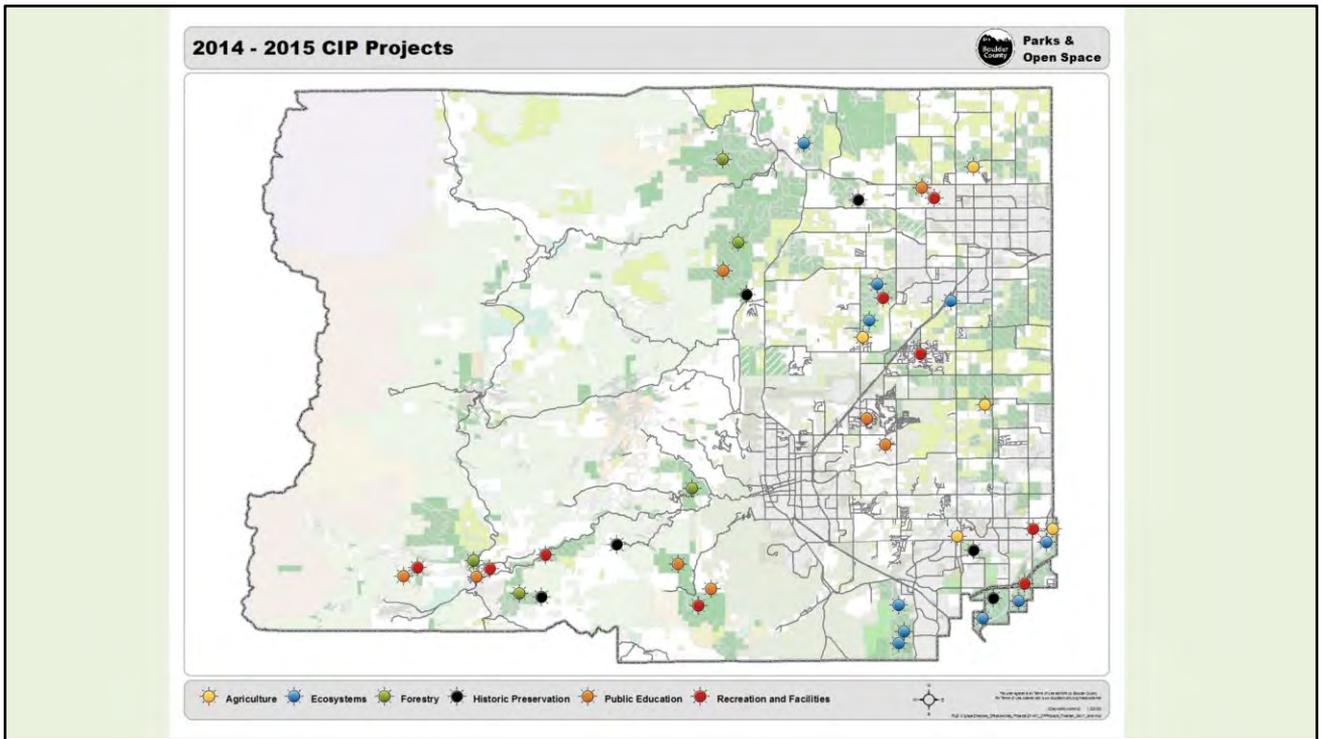
## Leveraging the 2015 CIP

	2014 Carryover	Grants	Partner/ Other	CIP	Total
Recreation & Facilities	\$250,000	\$200,000	\$8,000	\$150,000	\$608,000
Historic Preservation	\$50,500	\$170,487	\$0	\$100,000	\$320,987
Public Education	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	\$50,000
Agriculture	\$0	\$0	\$107,000	\$125,000	\$232,000
Forestry	\$25,000	\$371,000	\$0	\$200,000	\$596,000
Ecosystems	\$0	\$31,330	\$80,000	\$105,000	\$216,330
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$325,500</b>	<b>\$772,817</b>	<b>\$195,000</b>	<b>\$730,000</b>	<b>\$2,023,317</b>

The CIP plan provides a structure for seeking partnerships and grant funds to help leverage our budget.

Thanks to contributions of partners, grants, and other funding sources, we are able to leverage the CIP budget by nearly \$1 million. These additional funding sources include:

- Grants from Great Outdoors Colorado, the Rocky Flats Natural Resource Defense Fund, Urban Drainage and Flood Control District, Colorado State Forest, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, USDA, FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation, and the State Historic Fund.
- Contributions of funding partners, including the Transportation Department, City of Louisville, City of Lafayette, and agricultural tenants.
- Cash-in-lieu (CIL) funds that have been generated over the years by subdivision development in the Niwot and Gunbarrel areas.

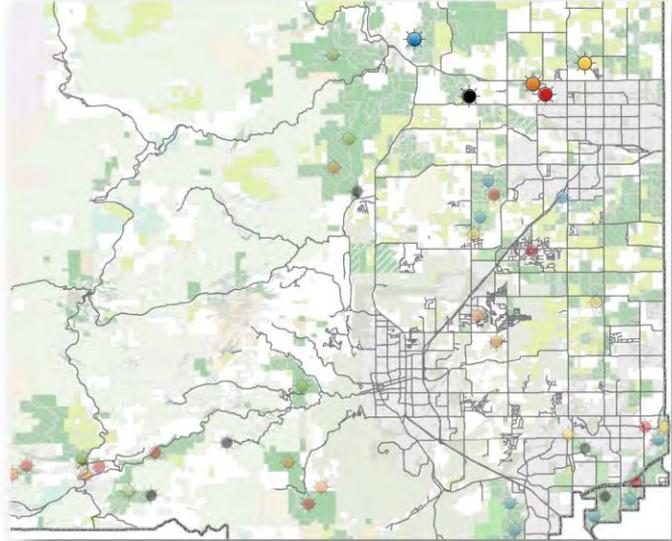


Given the dynamic nature of our work plan in wake of the flood, it is likely that projects will shift in future years.

Thus the focus of the remainder of this presentation will be on 2014 accomplishments and projects planned in 2015.

We'll take a clockwise trip around the county to see those projects.

## Northeast County



 Agriculture  Ecosystems  Forestry  Historic Preservation  Public Education  Recreation and Facilities

Northeast County:

AHC Public Education  
CEMEX SILICA QUARRY Ecosystems  
Puma 66 Agriculture  
RAMEY Historic Preservation

# CEMEX Grassland Restoration

**2014**

Mowed 1,700  
acres in-house

\$33,000 cost  
savings



**CEMEX.** 2015 CIP. Restoration efforts began in 2004 and will continue through 2019. In 2015, a cover crop of slender wheatgrass should establish on 150 acres. This area will be planted to perennial natives in 2017.

**Mowing:** 2015-2019 CIP. Because of all the mowing maintenance needed on multiple grassland restoration properties, a separate category was created for this need. Funds will be used to rent a tractor and hire a seasonal mower, enabling more efficient and effective mowing on Rock Creek Grasslands, Egg Farm, CEMEX and others.

Mowed 1,700 acres in-house

\$33,000 cost savings

# Ramey Barn & Granary

## 2015 CIP

**Barn**



**Granary**



### **Ramey Barn & Granary**

2015 CIP: The Ramey Farm is located in the Hygiene area and was first settled by Boulder County pioneers George W. Webster and Charles C. True in the early 1860s. In 1862, Webster filed a 160 acre homestead patent and most likely built the house that stands today. The property is significant as a well-preserved and intact farm complex that retains a high degree of historic physical integrity. The house and barn are thought to be one of the oldest remaining buildings in the County.

2001: Purchased by Boulder County.

2002-2012: BCPOS rehabilitates the 7 buildings on the property.

2013: September flood severely damaged the property. The barn and granary undermined by flood waters that resulted in major damage to both buildings. FEMA won't cover the rehabilitation...

2014: BCPOS stabilizes barn and relocates granary to temporary location to await permanent repairs.

2015: Contract out structural and civil engineering to repair flood damaged barn and granary including the cut banks around the building's perimeter area.



**Agricultural Heritage Center 2014 CIP:** Agricultural Heritage Center at the Lohr/McIntosh Farm off of Highway 66 in Longmont. Of all the BCPOS sites we interpret for cultural history, the AHC is the one most frequently open to the public.

# Agricultural Heritage Center

2014 CIP



**Agricultural Heritage Center:** 2014 CIP. In 2013, we completed driveway improvements for site distance at the Agricultural Heritage Center. This year we completed an asphalt apron. We also installed a sprinkler system around the house and complete drainage improvements.

# Agricultural Heritage Center

2014 CIP



New asphalt apron at entrance to Agricultural Heritage Center completed in 2014.

# Educational Exhibits

2015: AHC tractor exhibit replacement



Also includes Traveling AG Exhibit, Hard Rock Mining Museum, Assay Office Museum, Walker Ranch

**Ag Heritage Center Exhibits:** In 2015, we will modify the "Faces of Boulder County" exhibit and convert the tractor video to digital format. In 2016, the "Preserving Ag Lands" exhibit will be replaced.

**Trailside Interpretive Panels at Various POS Sites,** 2015-17 and 2019-20 CIP. a new panel at the Ag Heritage Center & McIntosh Lake intersection inviting trail users on the McIntosh to visit the Ag Heritage Center.

# Puma 66 Center Pivot

**2014: funds from CIP (AG revenue) and tenant cost share**



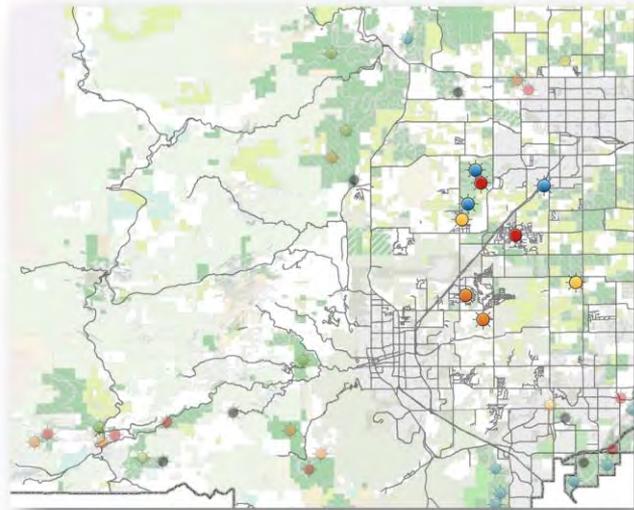
**Organic farm center pivot irrigation at Puma 66 & Pasqual:** rollover from 2013 CIP, EQIP grant and tenant contribution. Puma 66, Elliot & Pasqual (95<sup>th</sup> & Vermillion, N of Longmont) together make a good candidate for a center pivot irrigation system. These properties are leased by Dave Asbury and are irrigated pasture for his natural beef. In the beginning it will only be a “wiper,” or a half a circle, covering about 75 acres. This is because of the City of Longmont’s storm water control project on Puma 66, which will cover approximately 29 acres of productive land that could have been under the center pivot. The County purchased the neighboring Elliott property in Jan. 2013, increasing the coverage of this system to at least 75%, or another 34 acres. Ag tenant Dave Asbury purchased the center pivot, and the county installed the infrastructure, consisting of a pond to hold water, pump to get the water to the pivot, and electric power to run the pump.

Puma 66 (2008) – 161 ac.; sold 43 ac to Longmont in 2012 for flood control berm, s.t. CE

Elliott (2013) – 75.88 ac

Pasqual (2010) – 78.6 ac

# East county



East County: South of Longmont/Niwot & Gunbarrel

- IMEL Ecosystems
- LAGERMAN RESERVOIR Recreation and Facilities
- AHI Turkey Farm Ecosystems
- BISHOP Agriculture
- PECK Ecosystems
- Niwot Recreation and Facilities
- CATTELL-SHERBURNE Agriculture
- Twin Lakes Public Education
- WALDEN PONDS Public Education

# Lagerman / Imel / AHI

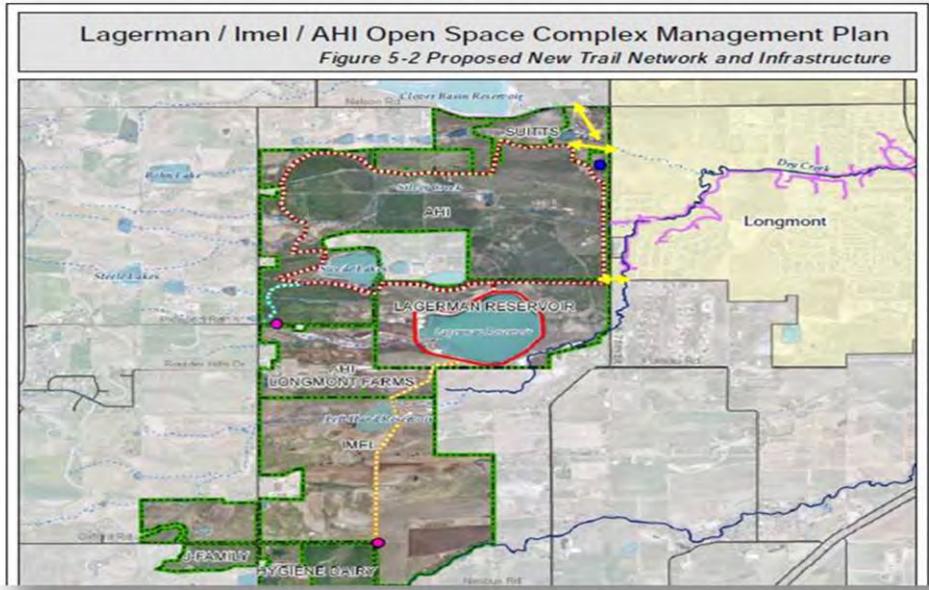


**Lagerman / Imel / AHI / Recreational Improvements:** 2014 - 2015 CIP, GOCO grant. The management plan, completed in 2012, includes a crusher fine loop trail to the north of Lagerman, and a trail to the south of Lagerman to Oxford Road. In addition, a trail from the Lagerman entrance to 75<sup>th</sup> street was funded with 2012 CIP funds and will be completed after the ditch crossing agreement is reached with Excel.

Great Outdoors Colorado and State Trails granted our request to transfer the St. Vrain Trail Grant to the Lagerman/ Imel/AHI project given the delays due to flood damages on the St. Vrain.

**AHI Turkey Farm Ecosystems improvements:** 2015-2016 CIP. The remainder of the turkey barns were removed in 2014. Areas in need of reclamation between existing wildlife habitat and the area of turkey barn removal will be restored using irrigation.

# Trail Loop – 2015



The trail loop will be completed in 2015-2016.

# Lagerman Reservoir – 2014



One of three ditch crossings needed for the trail loop was completed in 2014.

# Bishop Organic Market Farm

2015: funds from CIP/AG revenue



**Bishop Organic Market Farm:** 2015 CIP. Bishop is located south of AHI/Lagerman/Imel adjacent to Red Wagon Farm.

Tenants are Wyatt and Amy Barnes of Red Wagon Farm (& Hygiene Dairy Farm). They have been growing pumpkins, will move into more vegetable production and grass hay.

Bishop irrigation infrastructure:

- Improve irrigation diversion structure

- Improve irrigation water conveyance with pipeline

- Estimated cost of \$13,000

# Native Plant Propagation

Peck Native Seed Garden 2014:

CIP & Rocky Flats Natural Resources Defense Fund Grant



**Native Plant Propagation:** 2015-2019 CIP; RFNRD Grant. POS is collecting local, native ecotypes of seed that are not available commercially. Some of the funding for this project is provided by the Rocky Flats Natural Resources Damages Fund through 2017.

Peck Photos: These are photos from our Native Seed Garden on the Peck Property. We refer to it as the Peck Native Seed Garden. We currently have 5 species growing at Peck, 3 forbs and 2 grasses. The big winners in 2014 were the blanketflower (*Gaillardia aristida*) and the yellow coneflower (*Ratibida columnifera*).

PECK 2014-07-01 Blooming: a good photo of the blanketflower (foreground) and yellow coneflower in full bloom this summer.

Total 2014 blanketflower seed collected: 40.4 pounds

Total 2014 yellow coneflower seed collected: 72 pounds

# Native Plant Propagation, 2014

Benson Farm, WA:  
Blanket Flower



Benson Farm, WA:  
One-sided penstemon



Benson Photos: From Benson Farms Native Seeds in Washington who is growing out 3 grasses and 3 forbs for us. These photos are of two of the forbs at their farm:  
Blanketflower (*Gaillardia aristida*): Benson Gaillardia 2014  
One-sided penstemon (*Penstemon secundiflorus* – PENSEC): Benson PENSEC 2014

# NIWOT/SOMERSET

## 2015 Cash-in-Lieu



Niwot Trails Amendment was updated in Fall 2014.

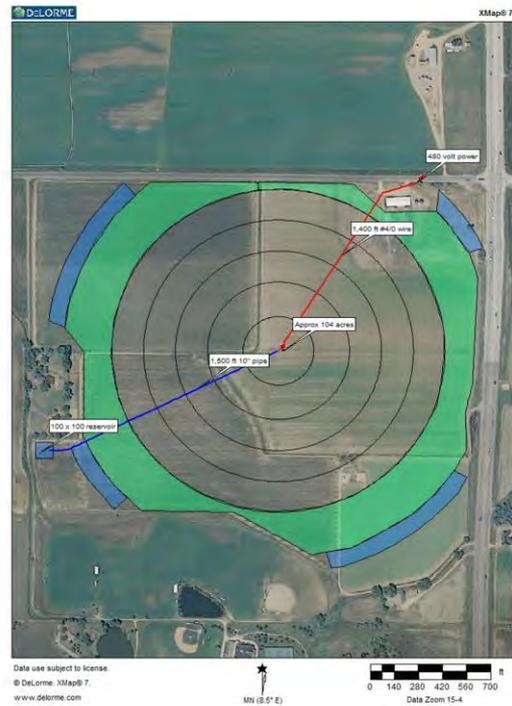
**NIWOT/Left Hand Valley Grange (LHVG) Johnson Park.** Grant application in 2015 plus Cash-in-lieu funds to complete work in 2016. Work includes redesign of parking lot, restroom, kiosk, and possible trail reroute at LHVG and Niwot area.

2015: Obtain easement from Somerset HOA and construct trail + apply for GOCO grant for parking lot

2016: Redesign of Parking Lot, restroom, kiosk, and possible trails at LHVG and Niwot area. In-kind POS labor, Zone 2 and 3 CIL funding, BC Transportation funding for restroom, and apply for GOCO local funding possibility..

# Cattell-Sherburne Center Pivot

**2015:**  
**Funds from CIP/AG**  
**revenue and tenant cost**  
**share**



## **Center Pivot Sprinkler—Conventional Farms (SW corner of Lookout Rd nd SH287)**

Cattell/Sherburne Center Pivot: 2015

Approximately 105 acres

Tenant Fameur Rasmussen grows corn, wheat, barley, sugar beets and alfalfa

2016: Henry-Ross

2018: Quicksilver

2019: Dodd Farm

# Trailside Interpretive signage

2014: Twin Lakes Owls - funds from CIP

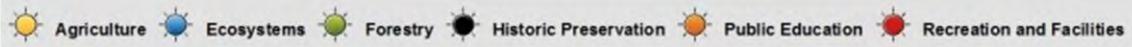
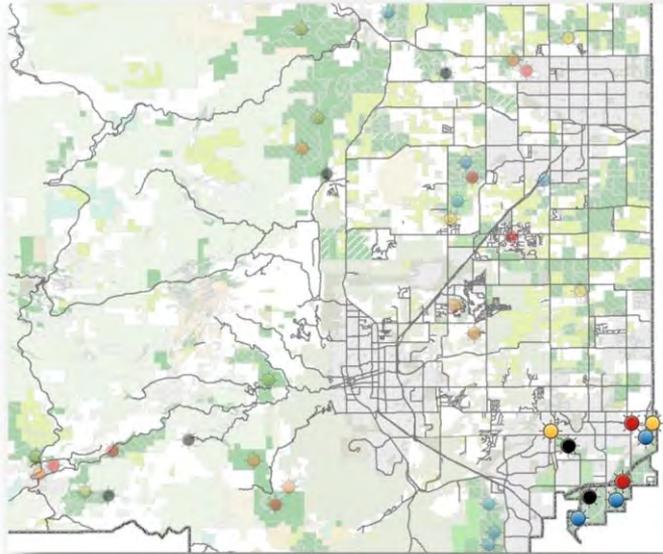


**Trailside Interpretive Panels at Various POS Sites, 2015-17 and 2019-20 CIP.** Each year, interpretive panels will be created for various POS properties open to the public. In some years we will be replacing weathered, damaged panels or updating the information. Panels focus on the property's natural, cultural, and agricultural resources, as well as resource management activities. In 2015, the series of panels at Walker Ranch will be replaced.

Two new panels about the effects of the 2013 flood will be installed at Heil Valley Ranch and Walden Ponds, and a new panel at the Ag Heritage Center & McIntosh Lake intersection inviting trail users on the McIntosh to visit the Ag Heritage Center. The cost for a trailside panel ranges from \$1,500 to \$3,000 depending on whether they are designed by POS or consultant, as well as the number of photographs and original artwork.

Two new panels about the effects of the 2013 flood were installed at Heil Valley Ranch and Walden Ponds.

# Southeast County



Southeast Boulder County:

- LASTOKA (HARNEY) Historic Preservation, Agriculture
- MOUNTAINVIEW EGG FARM Ecosystems & Agriculture
- FLAGG PARK Recreation & Facilities
- ROCK CREEK FARM Historic Preservation
- RUTH ROBERTS PARK Recreation & Facilities, Ecosystems

# Harney-Lastoka complex Site plan



**Harney-Lastoka Farm** :2015 Non-CIP Funding. Located at the southeast corner of Highway 42 and South Boulder Road, the Harney-Lastoka property serves as a visual legacy of the coal mining and agricultural heritage of the area. Jointly owned by Louisville, Lafayette and Boulder County, all improvements costs are shared among the three entities.

2007: Complete historic structure assessment of all the buildings and develop a historic preservation master plan.

2009: County Architects develop plans and specifications for house rehabilitation.

2010: Completed house rehabilitation for use by a resident farmer, with Boulder County covering all of the costs. The Boulder County Youth Corps assisted BCPOS staff with repairs to the brooder house, chicken house, garage, pig pen and fencing from 2007-2010.

2011: BCPOS staff repaired the two loafing sheds and new milk house. Louisville & Lafayette fund the costs for the Mule Barn engineering plans in preparation for the 2012 in-house rehabilitation.

2012: BCPOS completes Mule Barn rehabilitation.

2013: BCPOS completes machine shed repairs that include a new roof, masonry repairs, and window and door repairs.

2014: Install machine shed concrete floor. BCPOS begins rehabilitation of the two wood granaries.

2015: City of Louisville & City of Lafayette partner supported cash match will not

be available due to market farm water project being the top priority. In-house rehabilitation of small shed, round granary and privy. All work is planned to be completed in early 2015. O&M funds to complete work and then continue forward with O&M funds for regular maintenance.

NOTE: 2014 marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the “long strike” – a four year labor strike by 3,000 coal miners in the northern coal fields in Marshall, Superior, Louisville, Lafayette, and Erie, who were members of the United Mine Workers of America labor union.

# Harney Lastoka – 2014



Partner Funds with POS Labor:

- Machine shed interior concrete floor
- granaries



In 2014, we added a concrete floor to the machine shed and completed work on the granaries.

# Harney- Lastoka Water Delivery



## In Agriculture Category:

**Harney-Lastoka** pond & irrigation for market farm: 2014 CIP, partner contributions. This project will deliver water to a pond to be used by an Ag tenant for a CSA type of farming operation. It requires the installation of an underground irrigation pipeline and construction of a small settling pond for pumping irrigation water to a drip tape type of irrigation for small acreage or CSA.

# Harney-Lastoka Water Delivery

**2014-2015: Cost shared 50/50 with Louisville/Lafayette**

Hecla Headgate

Pipeline construction



Water will irrigate the organic market farm fields

Harney-Lastoka: 2015

Approximately 12 acres converted to a CSA or Market Farm

Existing pipeline will no gravity, a booster pump is required

Estimated cost is \$40K to \$50K cost sharing with Cities Lafayette & Louisville

# Mountainview Egg Farm Organic Market Farm



## Mountainview Egg Farm: 2015 CIP.

Organic market farms are generally small acreage farms and have the irrigation water and soils that are suited to growing vegetables or “Farmers Market” type produce. These types of crops are raised more efficiently with drip or sprinkler irrigation. This will require new irrigation infrastructure, which typically includes an irrigation water holding structure or pond, pumping station, some underground pipeline, and new electric service brought to the irrigation pump. These types of systems can supply irrigation water to overhead type sprinklers and/or drip-tape type irrigation.

### Egg Farm irrigation infrastructure: 2015

- Approximately 11 acres

- Dependent on water quality for crop production (high sodium concerns)

- Well development estimated at \$30,000

- Irrigation system (underground pipeline and risers) at \$30,000

- Update electric power at \$15,000

Waiting on results of well water test

Barn demolition (5) by end of year, paid by Lafayette/Broomfield

# 2014 Flagg Park

## Funds from Lafayette and Boulder County Transportation



**Flagg Park Trailhead Improvements:** partnership with BC Transportation and City of Lafayette with in-kind labor provided by BCPOS. Flagg Park will serve as a regional trailhead for the Rock Creek/Coal Creek trail system. The final segment of the Coal Creek and Rock Creek trail project was completed in 2013, but due to damage sustained in the September flooding, trail repair work is needed. The Trailhead master plan developed in 2006 and updated in 2012 identified possible projects that include redesigning the parking lot to accommodate vehicles and trailers, constructing a restroom and kiosk, landscaping and picnic sites. Lafayette owns the land, which is a former landfill, and the property is in the 100-year flood plain. Both of these factors may limit the scope of the project. To aid in trailhead planning, site history and landfill boundary assessments were completed in 2010, as well as a survey of surrounding local parks and their amenities. Funds will be used to construct a restroom and kiosk, and redesign the parking lot.

**Grasslands restoration at Mountain View Egg Farm:** 2015 CIP: Funds will be used to maintain 33 acres that was seeded in 2014.

# 2014 Ruth Roberts Trail

Funds from CIP, Broomfield, GOCO grant



**Rock Creek Grasslands Trails:** Grant application in 2019, 2020 CIP and possible grant funds. Based on direction in the 2011 Management Plan, in 2014 BCPOS completed a trail connecting Broomfield to the regional Rock Creek trail through the Ruth Roberts property with the help of Youth Corps teams. This project was a partnership with Broomfield and was awarded GOCO “mini” trails grant for \$45,000 in fall 2013. Broomfield contributed \$102,000 and the county contributed in-kind labor.

The Pony Estates-Lafayette connector trail is planned for 2020, following a grant application in 2019. A scope and budget estimate for this trail segment still needs to be determined.

## Rock Creek Grasslands Restoration 2015 - 2017



### **Grassland Restoration Projects:**

**Rock Creek Grasslands:** 2015 CIP. BCPOS has been working to restore several agricultural properties in the southeast part of the county to native prairie beginning with restoration of the Tommy Thompson property in 1996. The project is now focused on reseeding problem areas and maintenance now. The main property that will be worked on in 2015 is 45 acres at Ruth Roberts.

# Rock Creek Farm Barn #22

2014 CIP

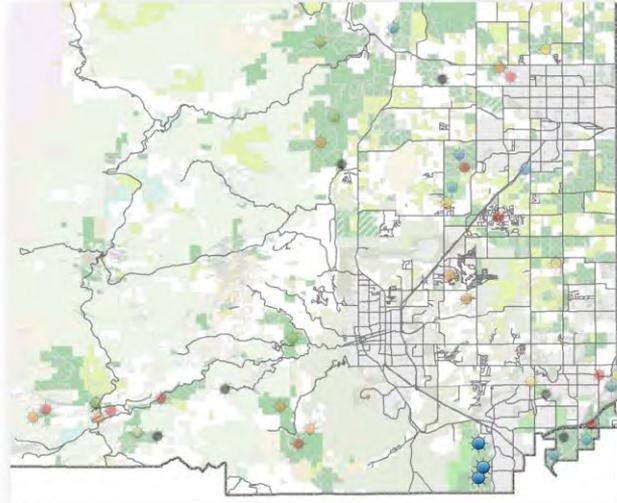


**Carolyn Holmberg Preserve at Rock Creek Farm Barn #22.** 2016-2017 CIP. Rock Creek Farm is a historic farm complex that is associated with the early agricultural development of Boulder County. The 1,124 acre property is located in southeast Boulder County and features numerous historic agricultural buildings that are under an agricultural lease. The 1912 Goodhue Farmhouse was rehabilitated in 2005 and is currently used as a meeting facility. Barn #22 is an early 20<sup>th</sup> century wood framed building used by the agricultural tenant and shows signs of structural failure due to the lack of cross bracing in its original construction method.

2014 CIP. Engineering plans for structural repairs.

2016 CIP. Perform work to stabilize the barn.

# South County



 Agriculture  Ecosystems  Forestry  Historic Preservation  Public Education  Recreation and Facilities

South County:

ERIN ARSENAULT Ecosystems – plague restoration

SCRIFFINY Ecosystems

CARLSON-LASTOKA Ecosystems – riparian restoration

## Plague Opportunity Properties - 2015



**Plague Properties:** 2015-2020 CIP. Funds to revegetate properties after prairie dog die-off due to plague outbreak. No funds are specifically allocated from 2015-2019 because of the priority of flood restoration projects, but reseeding may happen on Erin Arensault in 2015.

(photo shows Lindsay property)

# Riparian Restoration - 2015

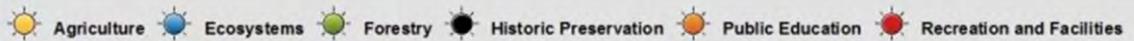
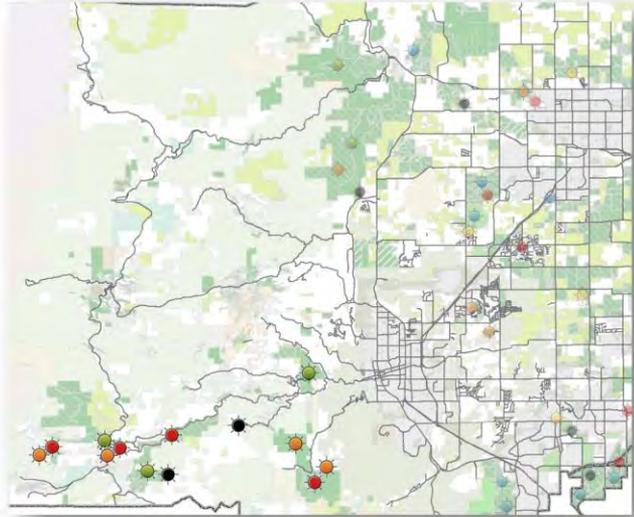


## Riparian Restoration Projects:

**Rock Creek:** Funding from Urban Drainage and Flood Control District, Town of Superior, Colorado Parks and Wildlife wetland grant, and 2015 CIP. A portion of Rock Creek through the Carlson/Lastoka and Scriffany properties was historically straightened, with little valuable wildlife habitat. The historic meandering channel still exists and will be restored. In 2014, the designs for the stream restoration were completed. Construction was delayed because of the flood and is now expected to be implemented in early 2015.

Other riparian restoration projects: 2017-2020. Projects include Lower Boulder Creek, Geer Creek (Heil Valley Ranch), DeLonde Creek (Caribou Ranch), St. Vrain Creek (Hall Ranch), Sherwood Gulch.

# Mountains



## Mountains:

WALKER RANCH Recreation and Facilities

WALKER RANCH Public Education

ROCKY MOUNTAIN MAMMOTH Historic Preservation

Reynolds Ranch Forestry, HP

Ned Mining Museum RAF & PE

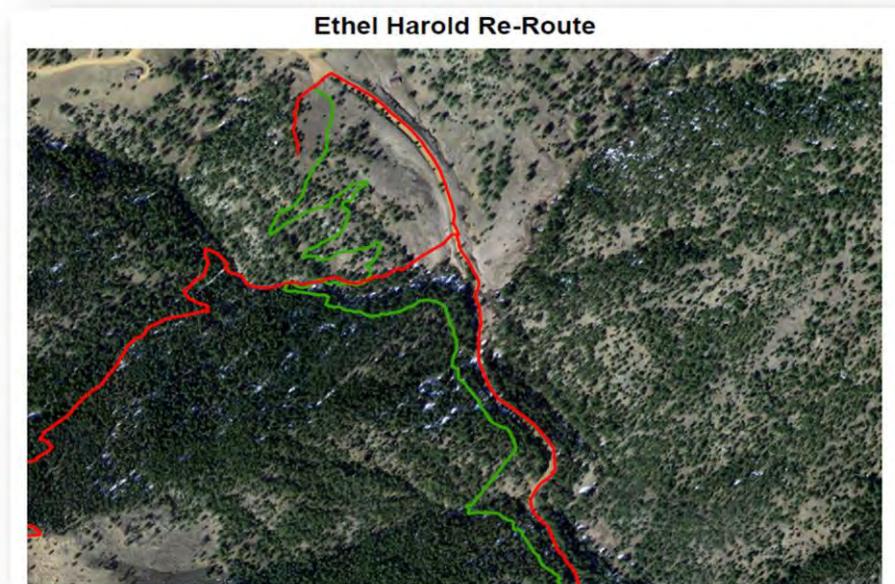
Mud Lake Forestry (6 BETASSO PRESERVE Forestry)

CARDINAL MILLSITE Recreation and Facilities

Cardinal Mill – public education

Mud Lake Forestry

# Walker Ranch Trail Work



**Walker Ranch implementation:** 2015, 2017-2018 CIP. The management plan update for Walker Ranch was completed in 2013.

2014: trail improvements on trail from Ethel Harrold to S. Boulder Creek, for erosion control/sustainability and improved visitor experience.

2015: upgrade of the Ethel Harrold trailhead, for which trailhead and property boundary surveys were completed in 2010

2017-18: Road redesign between Meyer's lots; and natural play area design and installation

**Current planning effort: Eldorado Springs to WR**

# Walker Ranch Trail Work

2014 Ethel Harold reroute



Vail Resorts & VOC Volunteer Projects

Large volunteer project fall 2014- ~150 volunteers from Vail Resorts & Volunteers for Outdoors Colorado

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In 2015, the series of panels at Walker Ranch will be replaced.

# Walker Ranch 2015



## Meyers Trailhead

- Road reroute
- Natural play area
- Interpretive panels

## Walker Ranch 2015: Design work related to Meyers Trailhead

- Improve road between the two parking areas
- Add designated horse trailer parking
- Trail from upper lot to Meyer's Homestead Trail
- Nature-Play area

# Rocky Mountain Mammoth Mine Shaft House 2014-2017 CIP, SHF Grant



**Rocky Mountain Mammoth Mine Shaft House and Cabin:** SHF Grant and 2014 CIP (carryover). Located at the top of Magnolia Road, the Rocky Mountain Mammoth Mine is one of Boulder County's most intact examples of a late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century small scale hard rock mining operation once common in the foothills of Boulder County. Such intact sites are extremely rare and offer a unique opportunity for interpretation. The historic shaft house and cabin date from the late 19th century.

2009: Purchased by Boulder County in early 2009. Once the property was under contract, the Division of Reclamation Mining & Safety appropriated emergency funding to close the shaft in late 2008 due to the failure of the wooden shaft collar and the migration of the shaft opening inside the shaft house.

2010: BCPOS nominated the property to the National Register of Historic Places.

2011: develop engineering plans for both the shaft house and cabin in preparation for rehabilitation in 2014.

2013: SHF grant award for rehabilitation work.

2014: Scheduled rehabilitation work delayed (PE died + bats); will begin in 2015 and be completed in 2016.

# Mixed conifer treatment at Reynolds Ranch and Meeker Sort Yards

2015: funds from CIP



**Mixed Conifer (Reynolds and Meeker Sort Yard):** 2015 CIP. POS received a grant from the Department of Natural Resources to purchase a grinder. Our matching contribution is all the small scale treatments on numerous properties. Our CIP will match this grant with treatment on \$39,000 on the Reynolds property and the Ridge Road and Meeker community forestry sort yard.

# Reynolds Ranch Cabin – 2016, 2018



**Reynolds Ranch Log House:** 2015-2019 CIP. The circa 1865 log house is part of the historic Hockaday Ranch located southeast of the Town of Nederland. Charles Hockaday, who most likely constructed the building, settled in the area after working as a freight operator from St. Joseph Missouri to Central City Colorado. The property is significant for its association with the early settlement of the area and the development of high country ranching. Reynolds Family lease expires April 21, 2015. After lease expires apply for a SHF grant to complete a historic structure assessment. 2016 complete immediately needed repairs. 2017 apply for a SHF grant to complete construction documents based upon historic structure assessment findings. If awarded, begin project in fall and possibly continue into 2018. Project completed by summer 2018. 2018 - Apply for SHF grant to complete repairs identified in construction documents. 2019 – if grant is awarded, in-house or contract out repairs.

Cabin is visible from Magnolia road.

# Castle Rock Bridges

2014 CIP



**Castle Rock:** 2017 CIP. This highly visible site adjacent to State Highway 119 in Boulder Canyon abuts the BCPOS Platt Rogers property; partners include Colorado Division of Transportation (which owns the actual Castle Rock) and the Boulder Climbing Community group. Castle Rock is a very popular site, used by rock climbers, anglers, and picnickers. A recreation plan was created for the general site in 2012, and will be added to the upcoming Rogers Reynolds management plan update. The Castle Rock recreation plan addresses the many challenges posed by the site, including two old vehicle bridges, highway access, parking, resource protection, recreation access, and human waste management. In 2012, site work included new signage, a survey, road work, and clearing for the highway visibility.

**In 2013 and 2014,** engineering work was completed for bridge redesign. In 2017, funds will be used to complete bridge upgrades.

# Nederland Mining Museum

2014 CIP



**Nederland Mining Museum:** 2014 CIP. Boulder County acquired the Nederland Mining Museum artifacts in October 2012, housed in the unique County-owned building at the roundabout in Nederland. Funding will formalize a small parking area, improve the sidewalk in front of the building, and brighten up the front entrance

**2014:** \$10k Rec & Facilities budget: parking stops, steps, spruce up Building (Building Services).

Nederland is putting in new sidewalks, curb and gutter, on s. side. We will add new steps to the building entrance in conjunction with Nederland's work.

# Nederland Mining Museum

2014 CIP



**Nederland Mining Museum:** Replaced entrance sign in 2014.

# Mud Lake

2014: 71 acres; CIP & FEMA pre-disaster mitigation grant

Pre-thinning



Post-thinning



## Forest Restoration Large Scale Treatments (>50 ac.): 2015 CIP

POS received a FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation grant to do work on Mud Lake and Betasso. These are both hazard mitigation projects, the first is to protect the Town of Nederland if a wildland fire were to come from the north. This is in a mixed conifer forest. In addition to reducing the wildfire potential in the area, it also will improve forest health. This project should be complete by Dec. 31, 2014. The Betasso project is slated to begin in 2015 and is a fire mitigation project that will reduce wildfire risk for the Betasso Water Retreatment Plant and adjacent neighbors in the Four Mile fire protection district. Total FEMA grant for these two projects is \$358,000. POS will match 105,000 for Mud Lake and \$102,000 for Betasso.

# Betasso Preserve Ponderosa Restoration

## 2015: CIP & FEMA pre-disaster mitigation grant



### Forest Restoration Large Scale Treatments (>50 ac.): 2015 CIP

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# Cardinal Mill – 2014



**Cardinal Mill Public Access:** 2015-2017 CIP. Cardinal Mill is located on a 0.63-acre parcel a few miles west of Nederland. Purchased on April 25, 2003, the 1901 building is one of only three contemporary mills left in the state with most of its equipment remaining inside. The Cardinal Mill is Boulder County's largest historic preservation project to date. Due to the complexity of this undertaking, the project was parsed into phases. Phase I rebuilt the west side retaining wall and completed emergency repairs to the building, was completed in 2006 in partnership with Historic Boulder, Inc. and the Colorado Department of Public Health's Hazardous Waste and Materials Division. Historic Boulder, Inc. received assistance from a State Historical Fund (SHF) Grant (\$120,000) and matching funds from the County Commissioners (\$40,000). In 2008, Boulder County, with assistance from a \$214,800 SHF grant, completed Phase II by reconstructing the east retaining wall and numerous structural building repairs. Engineering plans were revised in the fall of 2008 to incorporate newly discovered structural deficiencies in anticipation of Phase III. In 2010, Boulder County, with assistance from a \$106,261 SHF grant, completed Phase III, which addressed critical structural repairs to the hopper roof and dormer, the lower north and east elevation walls, the lower south elevation roof and the main level columns and beams. In 2011, BCPOS nominated the property to the National Register of Historic Places.

In 2015, two interpretive panels will be installed at the tunnel entrance about the local geology that made mining possible in the area and information about working in a gold mine.

# Cardinal Mill Interpretive Exhibits 2015-2017

Coordinate Funding with Historic Preservation & Public Education



Upper Visitor Pod

In 2016, we will begin fabricating interior exhibits, including a model of a mill. We anticipate finishing the interior exhibits in 2017. Interior exhibit themes will include: Old Cardinal and current Cardinal site, life in a mining town, and how a mill works.

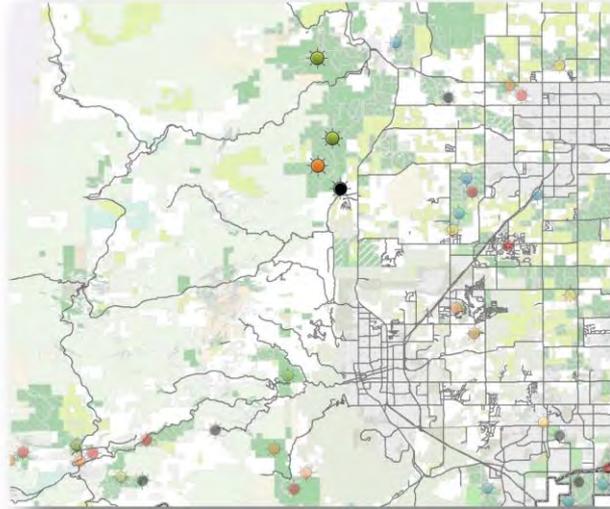
## Cardinal Mill Interpretive Exhibits 2015-2017



Lower Visitor Pod



# Foothills



 Agriculture  Ecosystems  Forestry  Historic Preservation  Public Education  Recreation and Facilities

Foothills:  
HALL RANCH Forestry  
HEIL VALLEY RANCH Forestry  
HEIL VALLEY RANCH Historic Preservation  
HEIL VALLEY RANCH Public Education

# Rx Burns

**2014: 150 acres burned HVR; 2015 HVR, Hall**



## **Prescribed Fire/Activity Fuels Projects: 2015-2020 CIP.**

After BCPOS has completed mechanically thinning some of our forests, the ideal next step for ecological process is to reintroduce fire. Our Prescribed Fire team identifies appropriate areas to use this management practice. It can include areas of grassland and shrubland, as well as forests that have been thinned in the last several years. Heil Valley and Hall Ranches are key areas where we would like to use prescribed fire in 2015.

POS will continue work at HVR. POS also received a Colorado State Forest Service Grant for working on Hall Ranch. This includes inventory and planning on 175 acres, and treatment on about 40 acres. The grant is for \$55,000 and POS Forestry CIP will match it with \$29,000 in 2015.

# 1880 Altona School

Historic  
Structure  
Assessment,  
2014 CIP and  
SHF Grant



**Altona School:** 2015, 2017 CIP and will apply for SHF grant. The 1880 Altona School is the oldest remaining stone school building in Boulder County. The one-room school house educated children from the Altona community from 1880 until about 1949 when declining population forced the school to close. The Heil family purchased the property in July 1949 and began using the building as a residence. Several small additions were added in the 1950s, but the stone school house remains remarkably intact.

2012: Purchased as part of the Heil Valley Ranch II acquisition

2013: the building is eligible National Register of Historic Places and granted status as a Boulder County landmark in early 2013. A SHF Historic Structure Assessment grant of \$15,000 was also awarded in 2013.

2014: using grant funds, hired contractor to perform historic structure assessment and complete restoration construction documents.

2015: grant-funded restoration

2018: submit a SHF grant application to complete the restoration work.

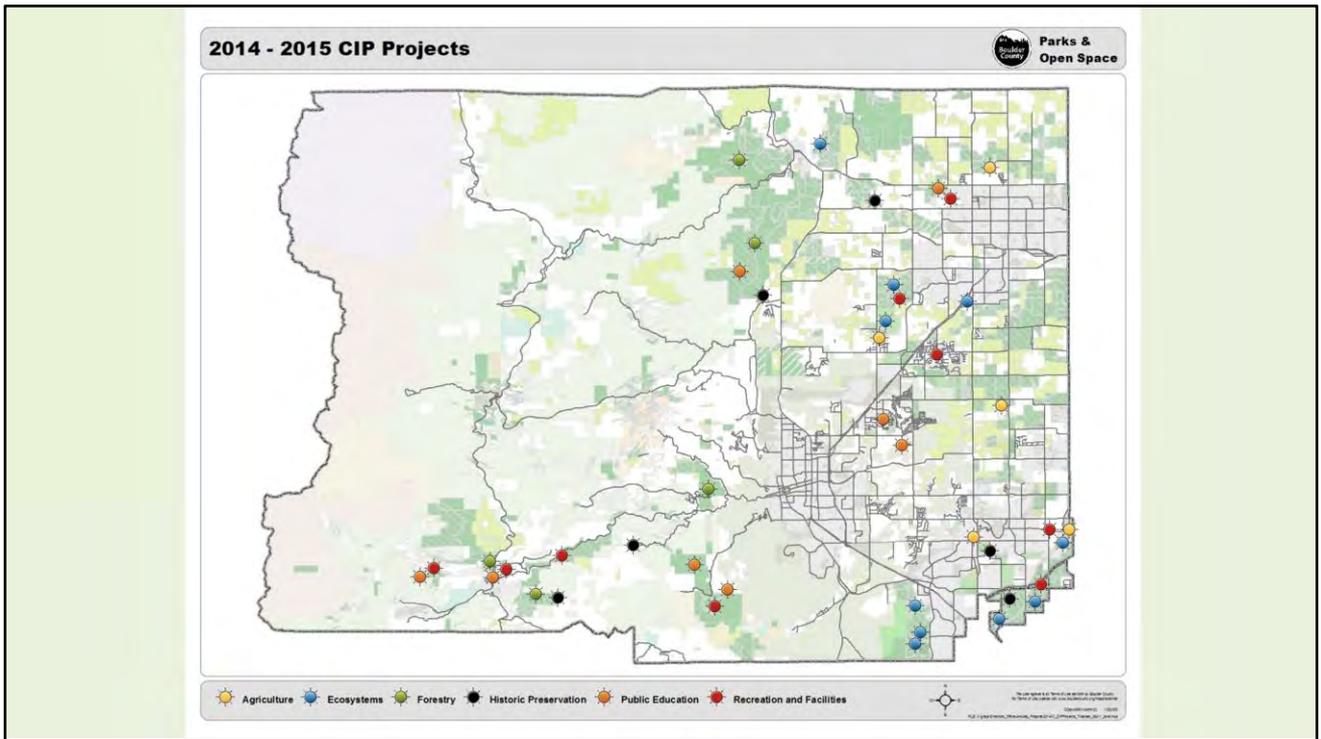
2019: using grant funds, hire contractors to complete restoration work

# Trailside Interpretive Signage

2014: HVR Flood - funds from CIP



2014 CIP: interpretive signage about the effects of the 2013 flood installed at Heil Valley Ranch.



This map depicts 2014 CIP accomplishments and projects planned in 2015, by category.